VISIT…

Dover Coloring Book

BUTTERFLIES
Coloring Book

Jan Sovak

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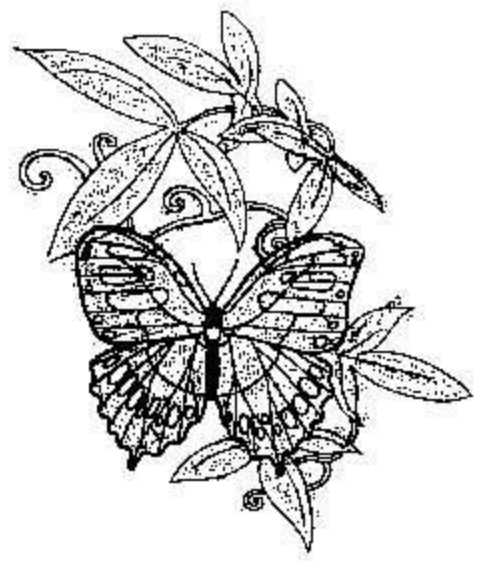
JAN SOVAK

Captions by MONTY REID



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Publisher's Note

Insects, with us everywhere, are unfortunately too often associated with uncleanliness, destruction, pain and disease. Butterflies are the most notable exception. As far as most of us are concerned, butterflies are simply beautiful. Although some caterpillars (the caterpillar is of course the first, or larval, stage in the life of a butterfly, as of a moth) can actually be seriously destructive to forest trees or crops, the adults' prominent wings, often a diaphanous kaleidoscope of subtle tints, invite ready forgiveness. A delicately hued butterfly, pausing for a moment on an equally lovely wildflower blossom, may seem the perfect expression of the transient splendor of a mild summer's afternoon.

One or another of the world's 20,000 or so species of butterflies may be found almost everywhere on all continents except Antarctica. About 700 species have been identified in North America north of Mexico. Artist Jan Sovak has drawn 43 of these for the present coloring book; for inspiration he has also provided small color versions of his drawings, shown on the covers. In addition, there are drawings depicting the only two butterfly species native to Hawaii. Writer Monty Reid has added informative captions to the drawings.

The common and scientific names follow Robert Michael Pyle, *The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Butterflies* (New York: Knopf, 1981), as does the order of the drawings. With one exception, this order is taxonomic (that is, based on considerations of anatomy and evolution). The exception involves the Skippers. The Skippers are actually an entirely separate group, or "superfamily," of Lepidoptera (order of butterflies, moths and their allies) sharing some characteristics of moths as well as of butterflies. These are traditionally classified before true butterflies, but, as they are less familiar to most people, Pyle places them at the end, as we do here. On the last page you will find alphabetical lists of both the scientific and the common names of all the butterflies in this book.

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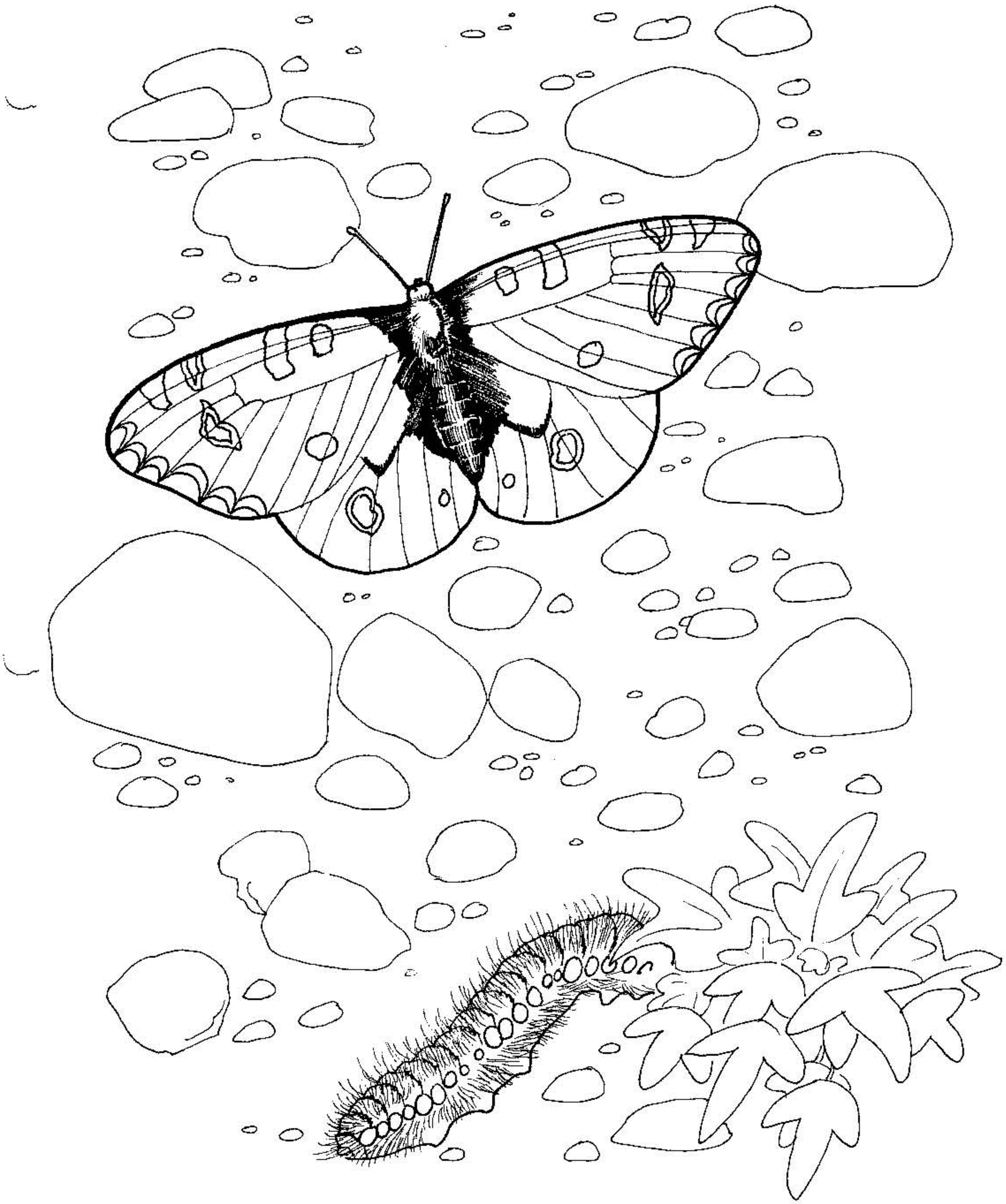
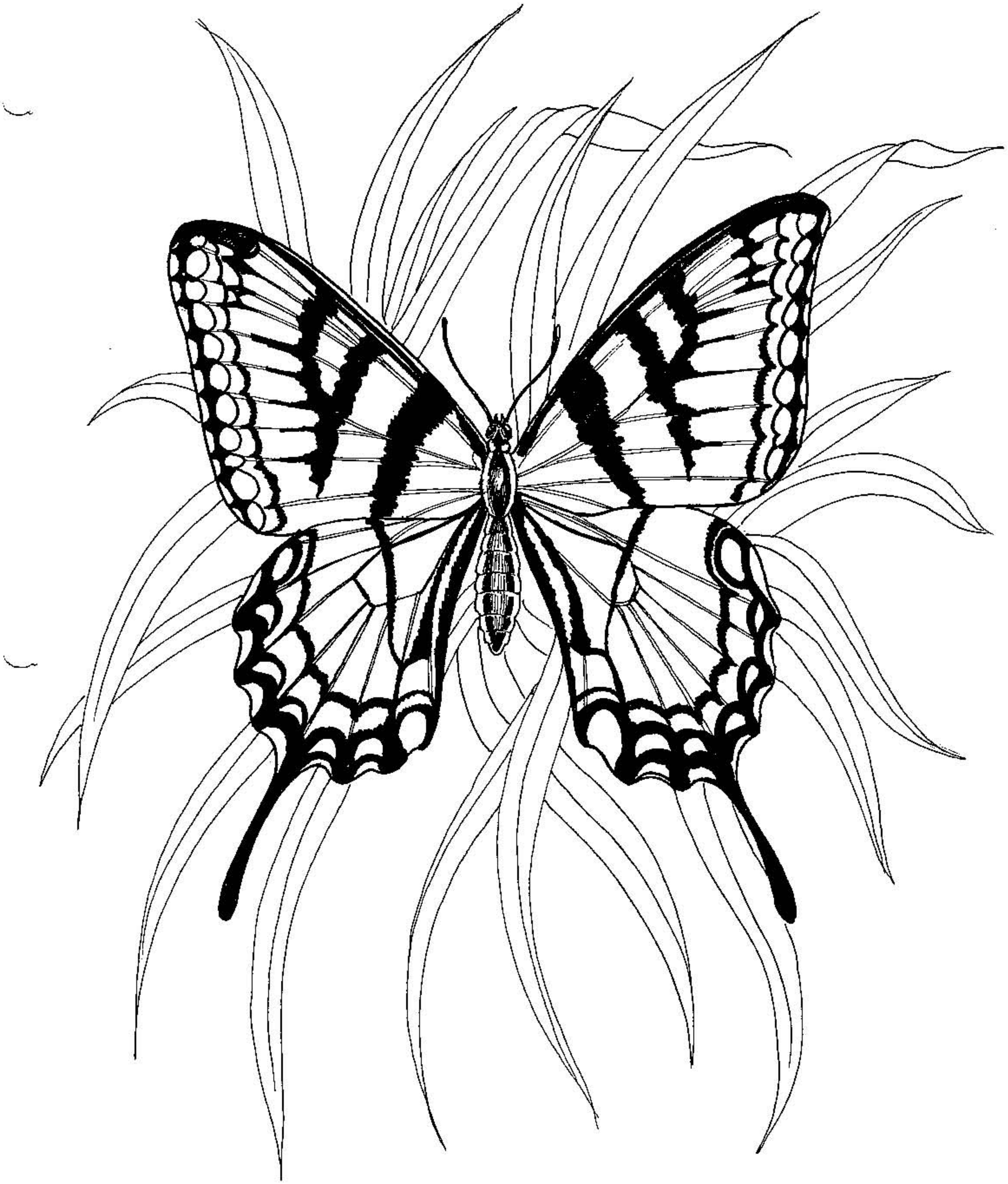


Phoebus Parnassian *(Parnassius phoebus).* Bright red spots decorate the pale wings of the Phoebus Parnassian. Its antennae are short and usually ringed with black-and-white markings. This member of the family of Swallowtails and Parnassians (over 600 species worldwide) is found high in the mountains from California to Alaska. It is, especially for a butterfly, unusually well adapted to the cold, sometimes active even in snowstorms.

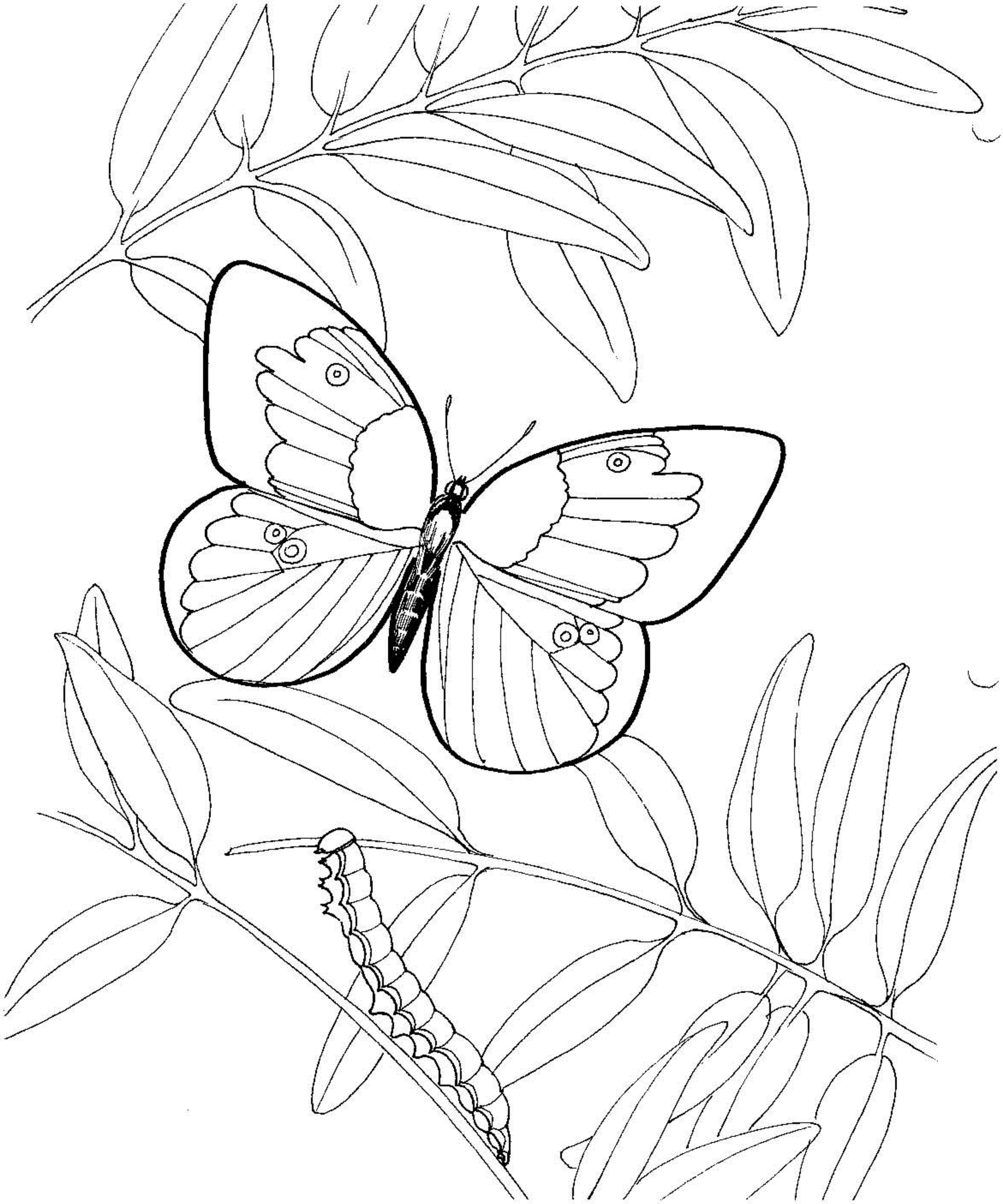
Pipevine Swallowtail *(Battus philenor).* Orange, blue and white markings on its underwings help identify the Pipevine Swallowtail. It lays its rust-colored eggs on pipevines and related plants, upon which the caterpillar feeds when it emerges. As with Monarch butterflies and milkweed, the pipevines contain a substance that gives Pipevine Swallowtails an unpleasant flavor to birds. The adults feed on a broad variety of plants. Found in most of the United States, as well as Mexico.



Tiger Swallowtail *(Pterourus glaucus).* Brilliant yellow-and-black wings and teardrop-shaped "tails" are characteristic of this very large butterfly (wingspan to over 5 inches), although some females have dark brown wings trimmed with blue markings. West of the Rockies and south of Canada the Tiger Swallowtail is replaced by the similar Western Tiger Swallowtail. Both are among the most common and conspicuous butterflies in North America.

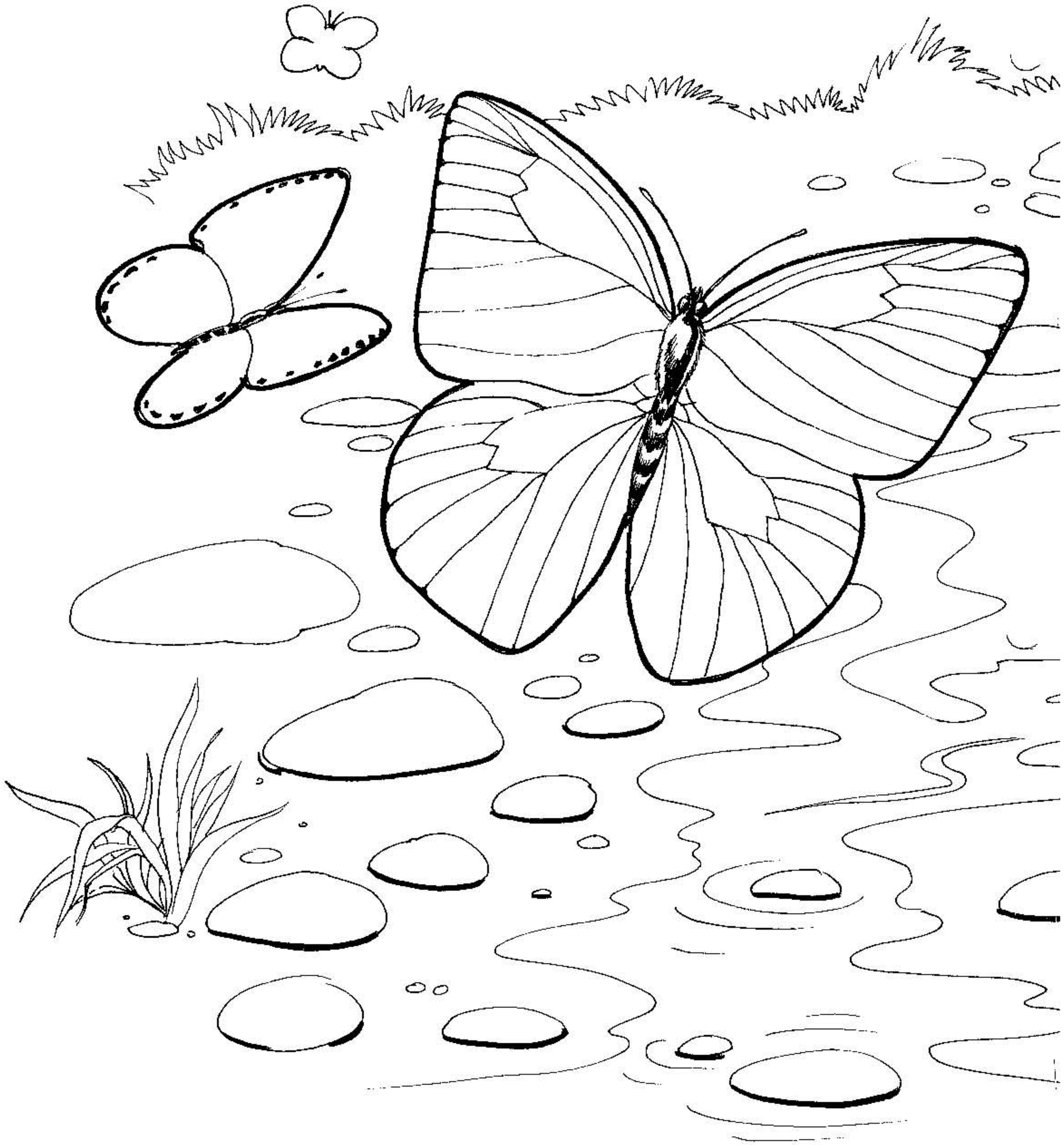
Zebra Swallowtail *(Eurytides marcellus).* Bright red spots at the bottom of its large triangular wings and similarly colored streaks and spots underneath, and its swordlike "tail," make the Zebra Swallowtail easy to identify. If you look closely you will see that the antennae are rusty red as well. Found throughout much of eastern North America, but only where there are pawpaw trees or their relatives.

Sara Orangetip *(Anthocharis sara).* This butterfly (a member of the family of Whites and Sulphurs, with about 1,000 species worldwide) can be found along the western coast of North America, from Baja California up to Alaska. Its forewings have bright orange tips but its underwings are a mottled green with yellow patches. Like many butterflies, Sara Orangetips live for only a few weeks.

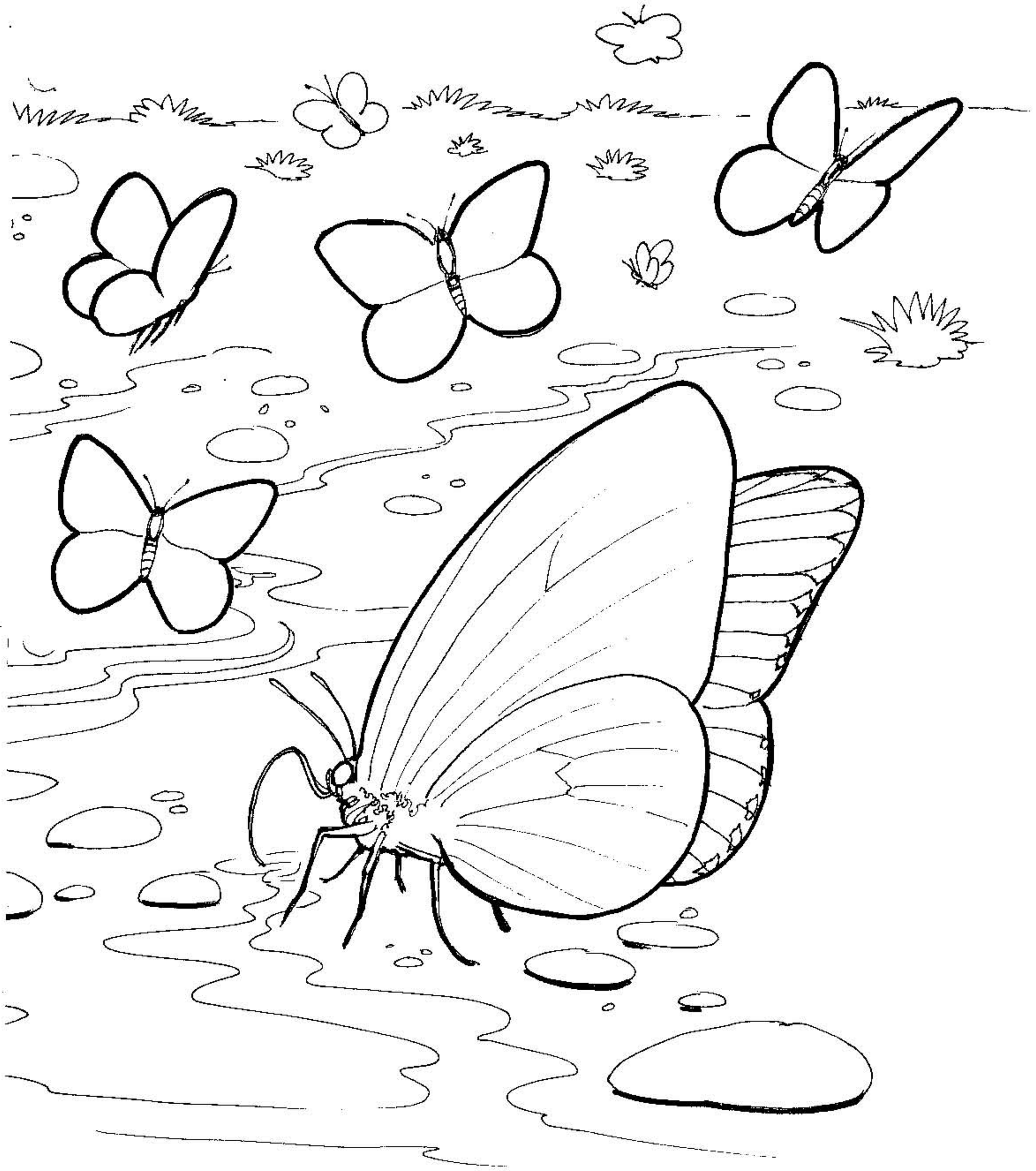


Dogface Butterfly *(Zerene cesonia).* Dogface Butterflies are often seen tacking over fields of clover, a favorite food source. Wing markings seem to form the profile of a poodle, hence the name Dogface. An agile, rapid flier, this member of the family of Whites and Sulphurs is most common in the southern United States but sometimes may be found as far north as Canada.

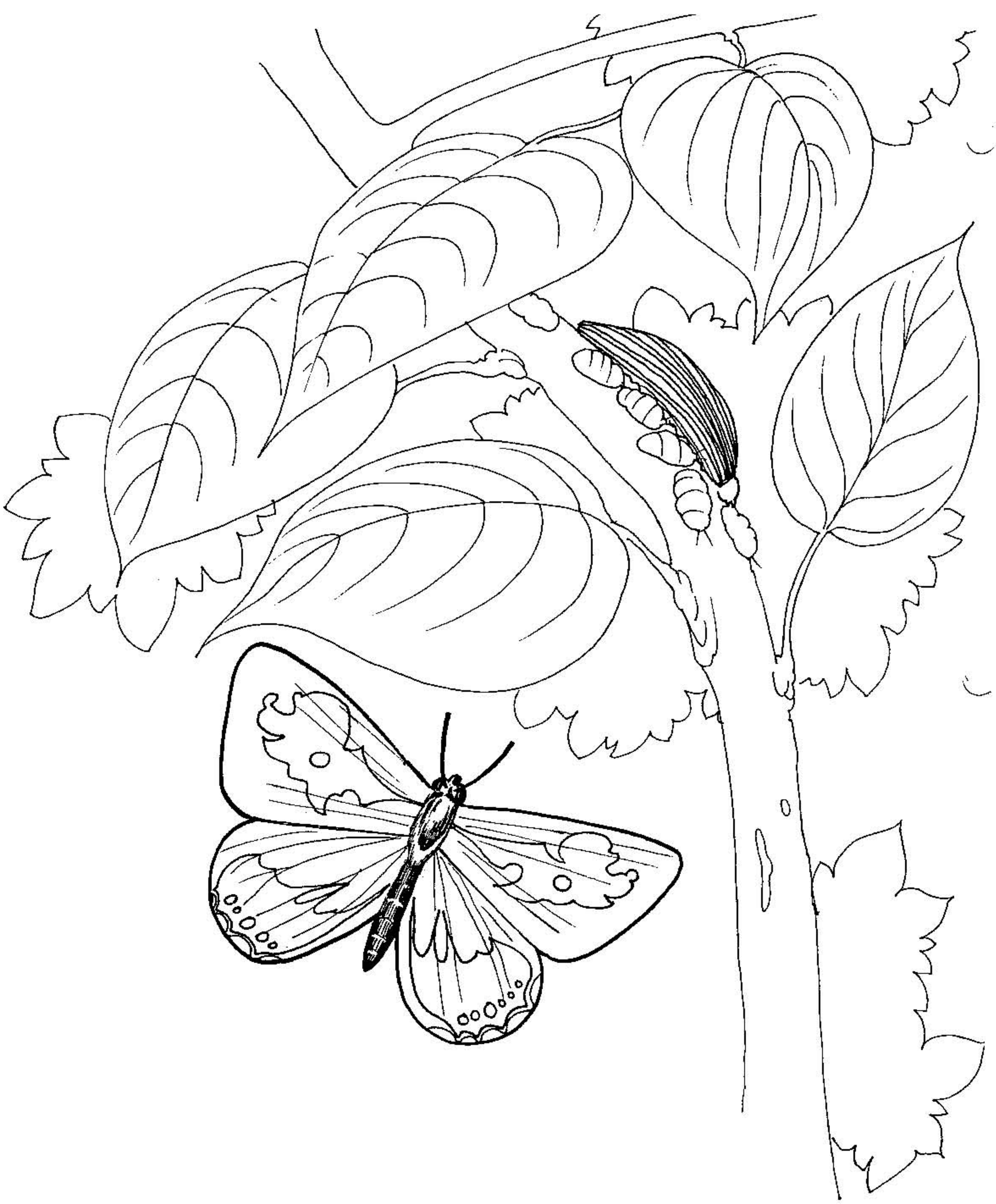
California Dogface *(Zerene eurydice).* The state insect of California, this spectacular butterfly can be found on mountainsides and in forest clearings. Males (bottom) have mustard-colored hind wings, with a black-bordered dogface-shaped patch on the forewings that often takes on a rich plum hue. Females (top) are a pale yellow, with only the slightest hint of the border.



Orange-barred Giant Sulphur *(Phoebis philea).* The bright yellow with brilliant orange markings on the upperwings of the male (females are similar but less brilliant) makes this one of the most striking of the Sulphurs. While the caterpillars of the Orange-barred

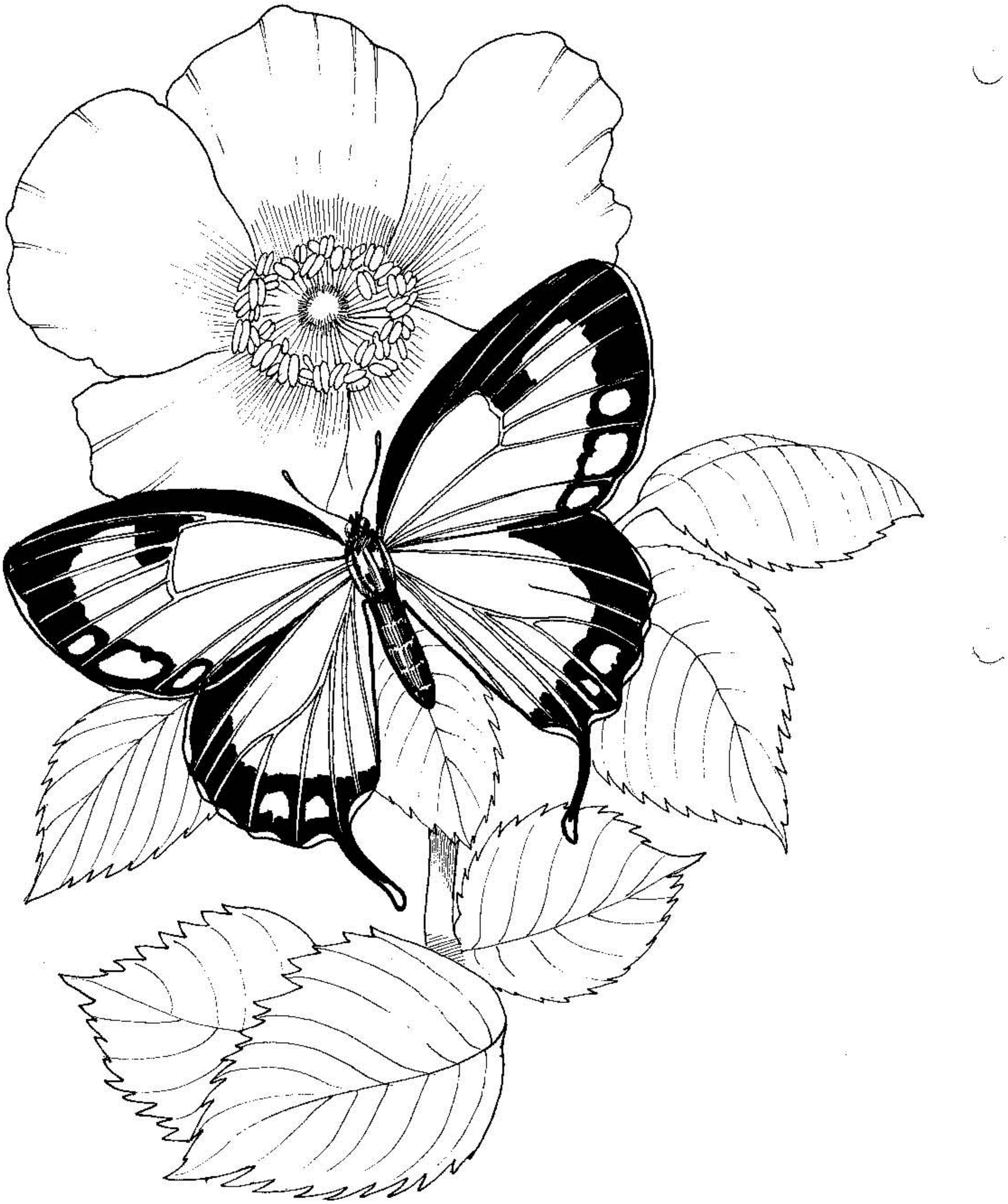


Giant Sulphur live only on sennas, the adult may take nectar from any number of plants, using its long tongue, or proboscis. This powerful flier is primarily a tropical butterfly. The only sizable population in the United States is in south Florida.



Harvester *(Feniseca tarquinius).* This slow-flying butterfly with orange-and-black wings can usually be found in moist areas throughout much of North America, but especially the East. Like all members of the enormous Gossamer Wing family (some 7,000 species worldwide, including the Coppers, Hairstreaks and Blues), it holds its wings over its back when resting. One of the most unusual butterflies, its caterpillar eats only aphids. The adult feeds on aphid honeydew, from which food supply it rarely strays far.

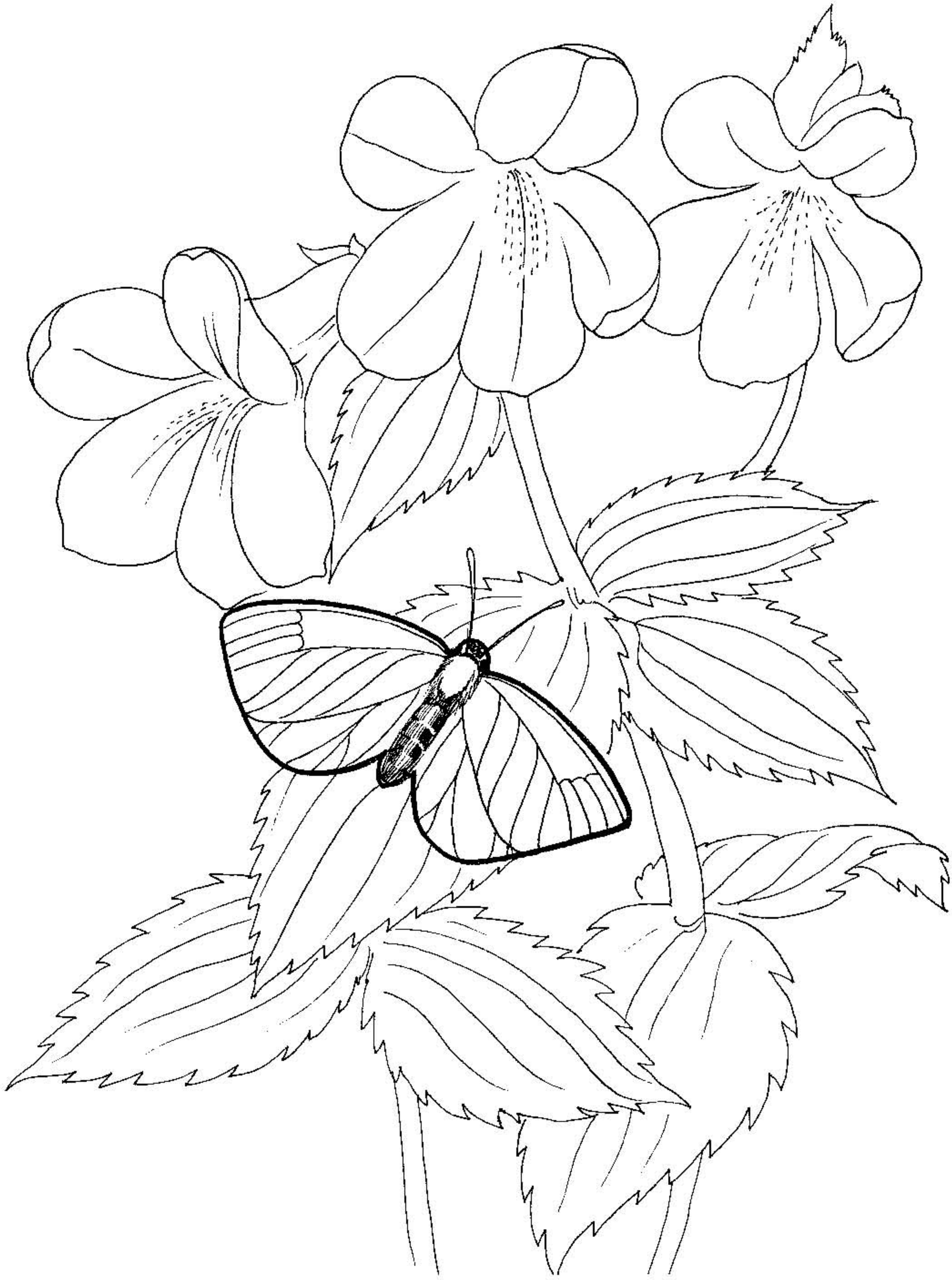
Ruddy Copper *(Chalceria rubidus).* The color of burnished copper, this butterfly has dark speckles, and sometimes white tips, on its wings. The Ruddy Copper is a fast flier and a familiar sight in the hot sun of high meadows in the West. The caterpillars feed largely on wild rhubarb, while the adults prefer flowers of cinquefoil, rabbit brush and wild buckwheat.



Colorado Hairstreak *(Hypaurotis crysalus).* Found in the canyons and scrublands of the Southwest, the Colorado Hairstreak has deep purple wings, generally with golden-orange spots. The tiny hairlike projections on its hind wings are characteristic of the Hairstreaks. Unlike most butterflies, the Colorado Hairstreak may remain active even after sunset.

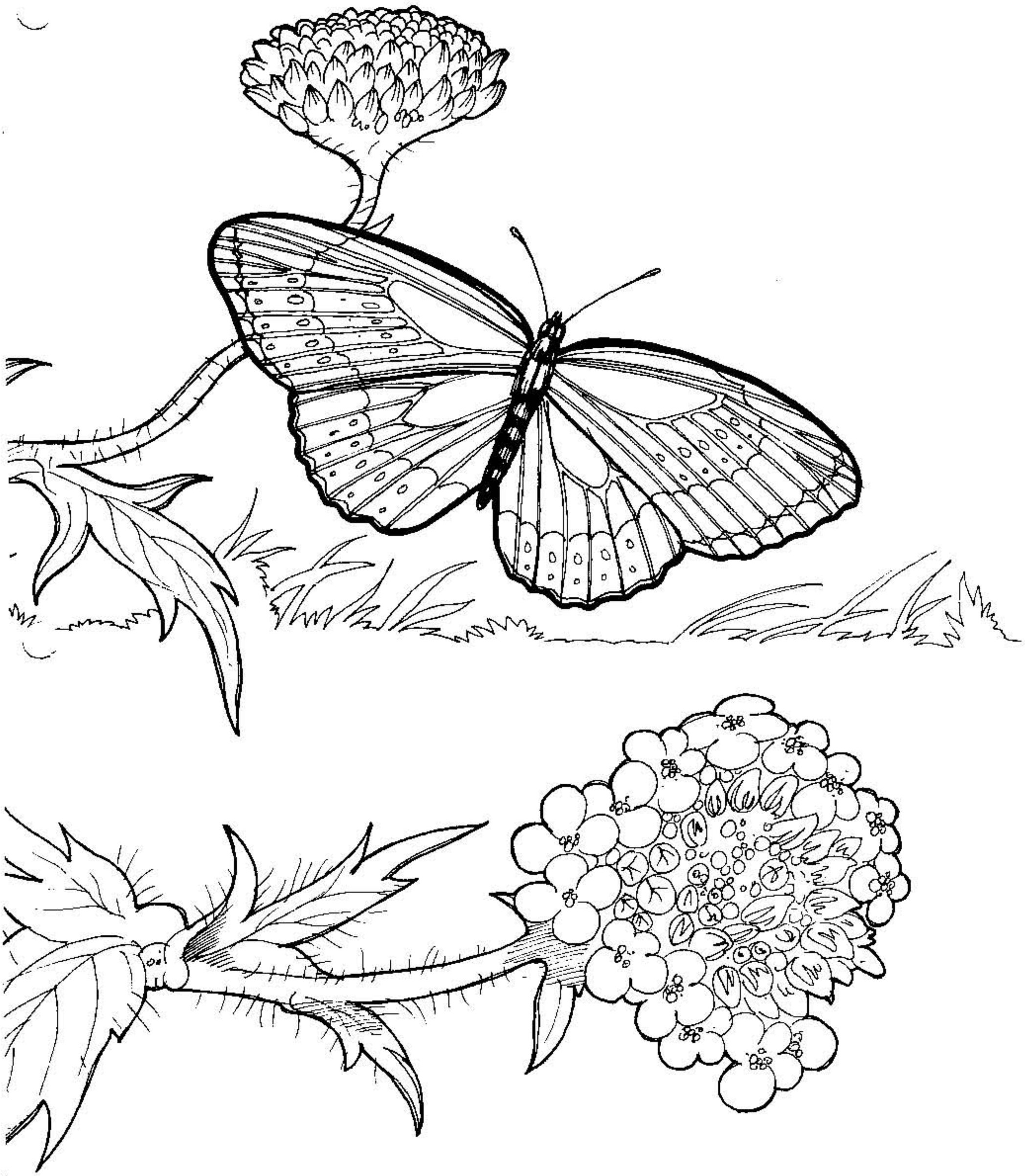
Great Purple Hairstreak *(Atlides halesus).* Living primarily in the Southern half of the United States, the Great Purple Hairstreak is found only in association with mistletoes. The male, really more blue than purple, is brighter than the female, which, however, has more prominent "tails" on its wings.

Olive Hairstreak *(Mitoura gryneus).* The Olive Hairstreak has a dark brown back (females may have orange or gold over the brown) with some orange-brown or golden-brown. Underneath, both sexes look entirely different, showing bright green with prominent white lines. This Hairstreak, unlike most, is common in the East, found, however, only around Eastern Red Cedar and related trees.



Blackburn's Bluet *(Vaga blackburnii).* One of only two species of butterflies native to the Hawaiian Islands, the lovely Blackburn's Bluet (the female is blue and black; the male has more extensive blue) remains common in many habitats. It feeds on the Hawaiian koa tree and certain other native and introduced plants.

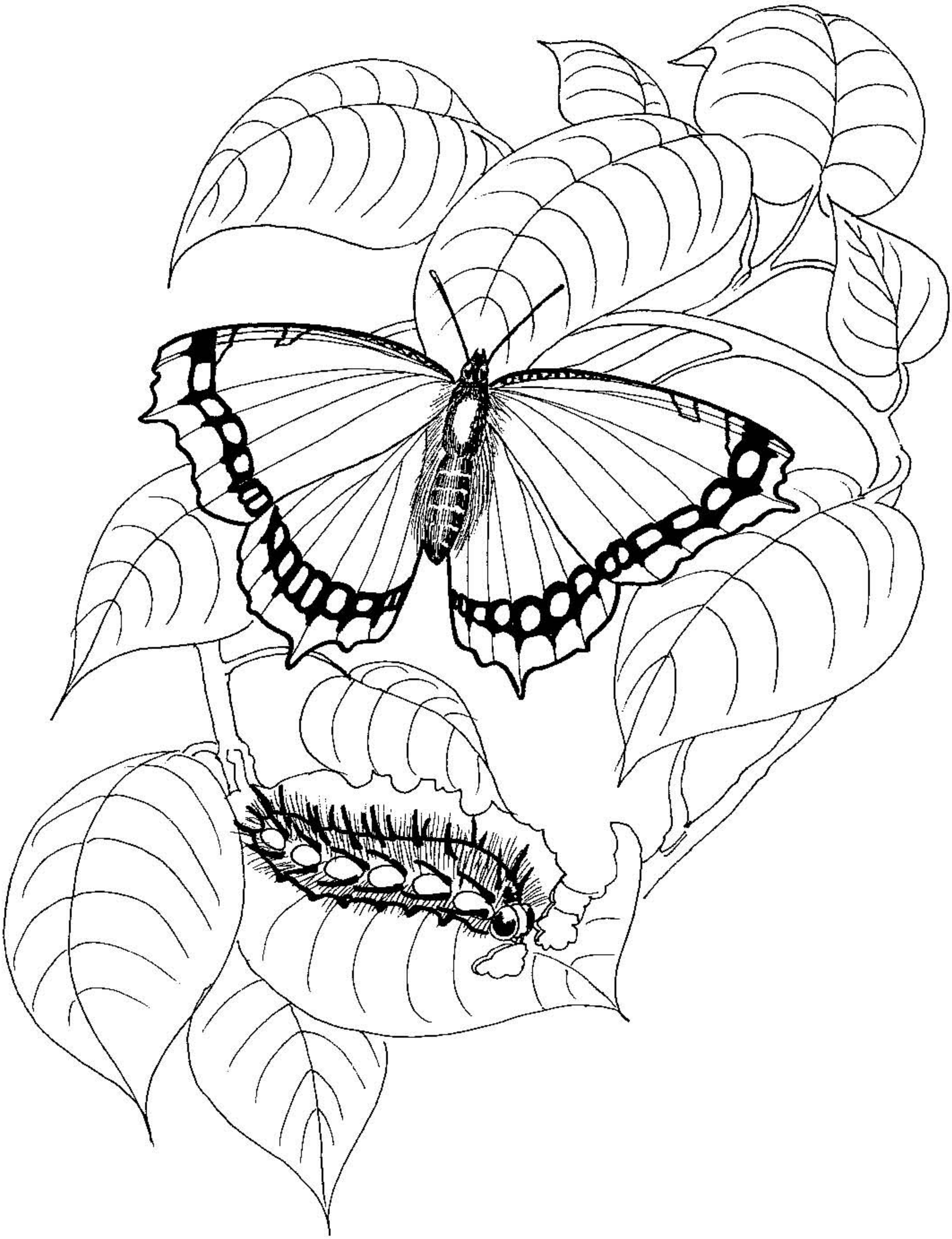
Orange-bordered Blue *(Lycaeides melissa).* It is the female that gives the name to this striking butterfly, where bright orange margins on the upperwings contrast with a bluish gray-brown wing base. Fairly common in open spaces of the West and far Midwest, from Canada to Mexico, the Orange-bordered Blue is also found in small numbers in isolated colonies in the eastern Midwest and East. The northeastern subspecies was named "Karner Blue" by novelist Vladimir Nabokov, who was also a distinguished lepidopterist (butterfly specialist).



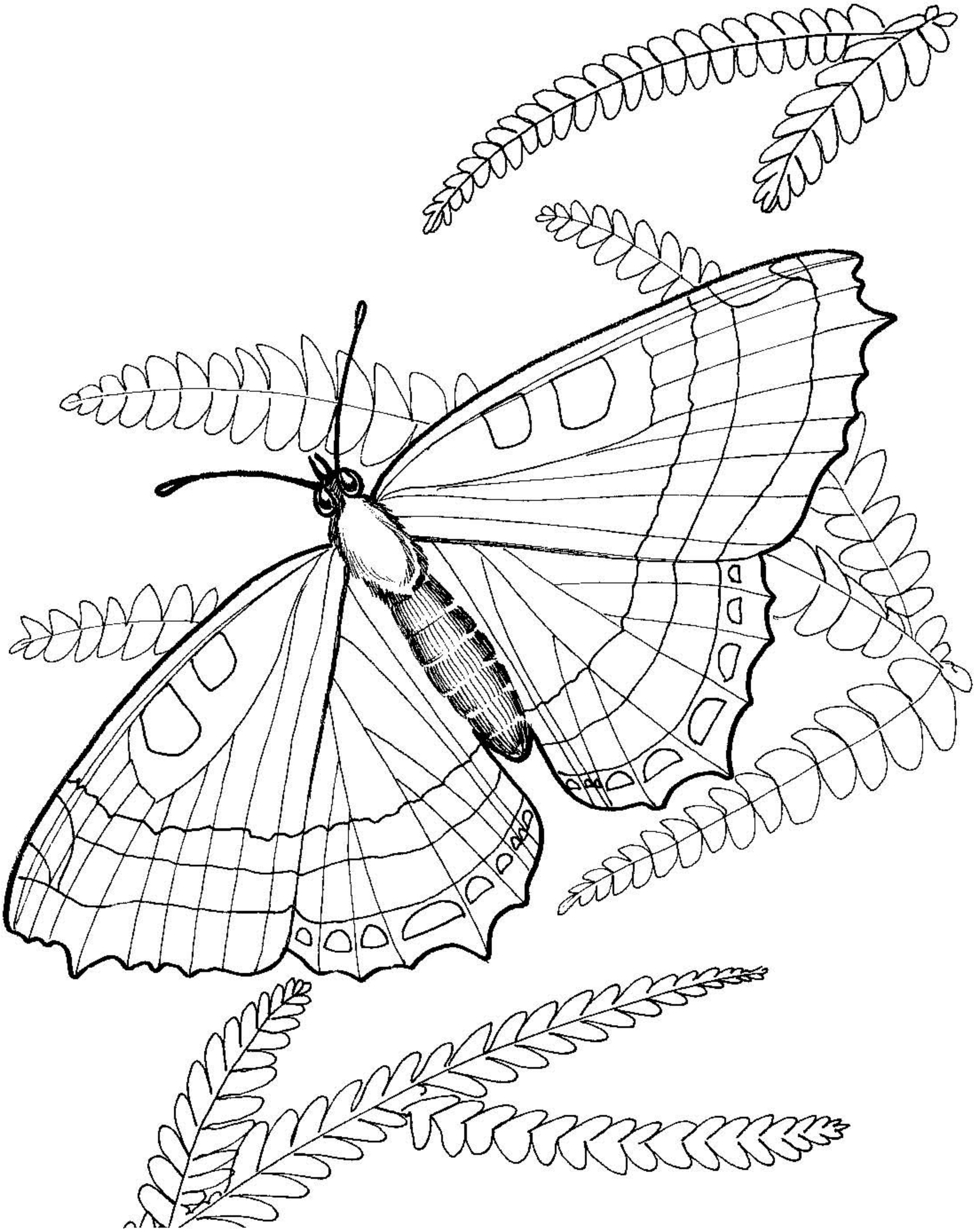
left) is black and iridescent blue, with pale blue spots on its forewings. The Diana belongs to the group of Fritillaries, a subgroup of the Brush-footed Butterflies. Unfortunately the widespread cutting of forests has decreased the range of the Diana.

Chalcedon Checkerspot *(Euphydryas chalcedona).* Most common in California, this medium-size black, orange and cream-colored Brush-footed butterfly is found in a variety of habitats in the far West, from southwest Oregon to Nevada, Arizona and Mexico. The drawing also shows the chrysalis (left), the intermediate stage between caterpillar and adult butterfly. Chrysalises, hung from a plant with a bit of silk, are unlike the cocoon of a moth, which is wrapped entirely in silk.

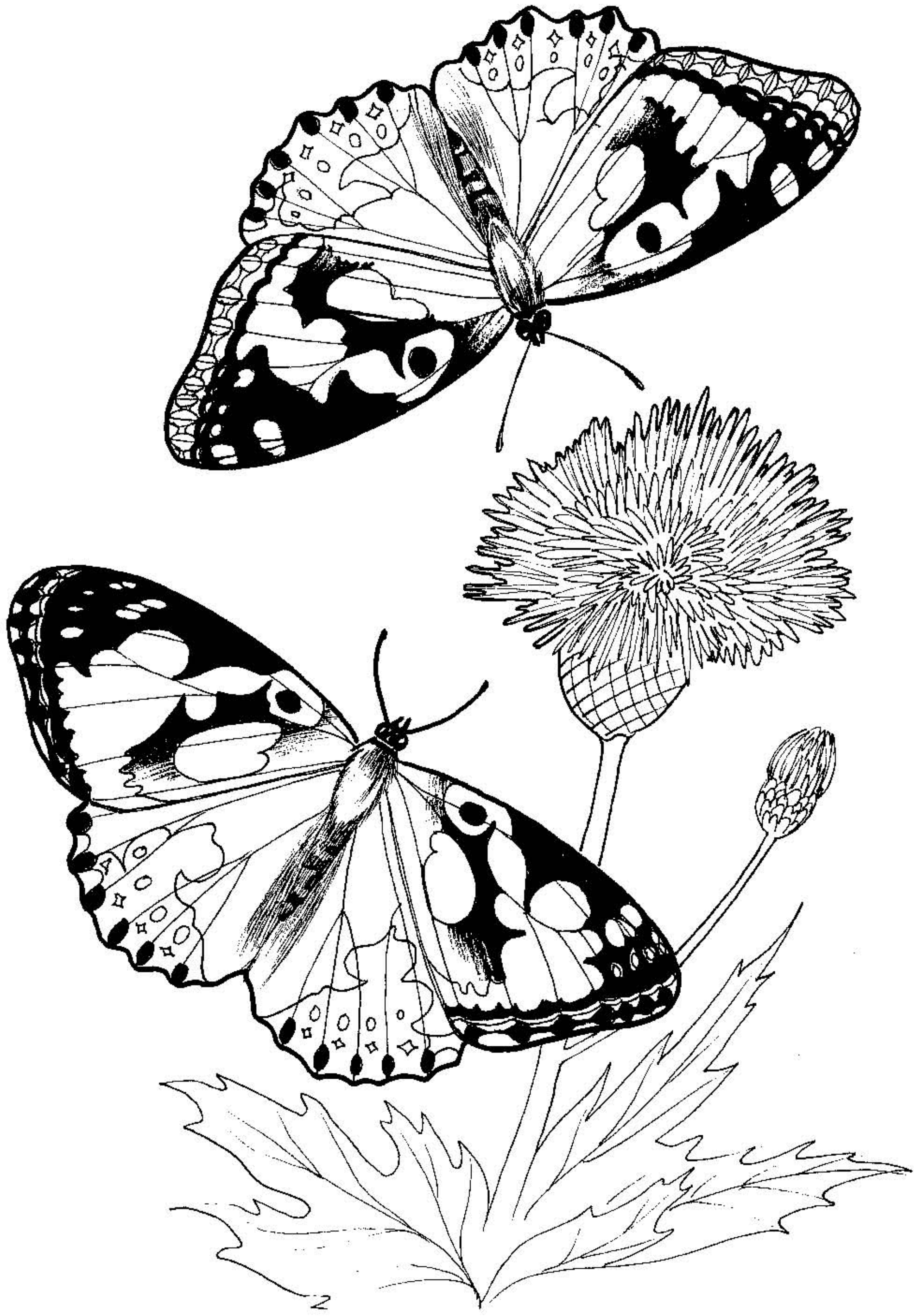
Question Mark *(Polygonia interrogationis).* A silvery question mark on the underside of its mottled hind wings gives this member of the Anglewing group of the Brush-footed Butterflies its name. The edges of its wings look ragged and often have a purple hue. Able to lay its eggs in any number of trees, particularly elms, the Question Mark is able to thrive in many places east of the Rocky Mountains, from Canada to Mexico. The adults frequently feed on fermented fruit, leading sometimes to the butterflies' becoming intoxicated!



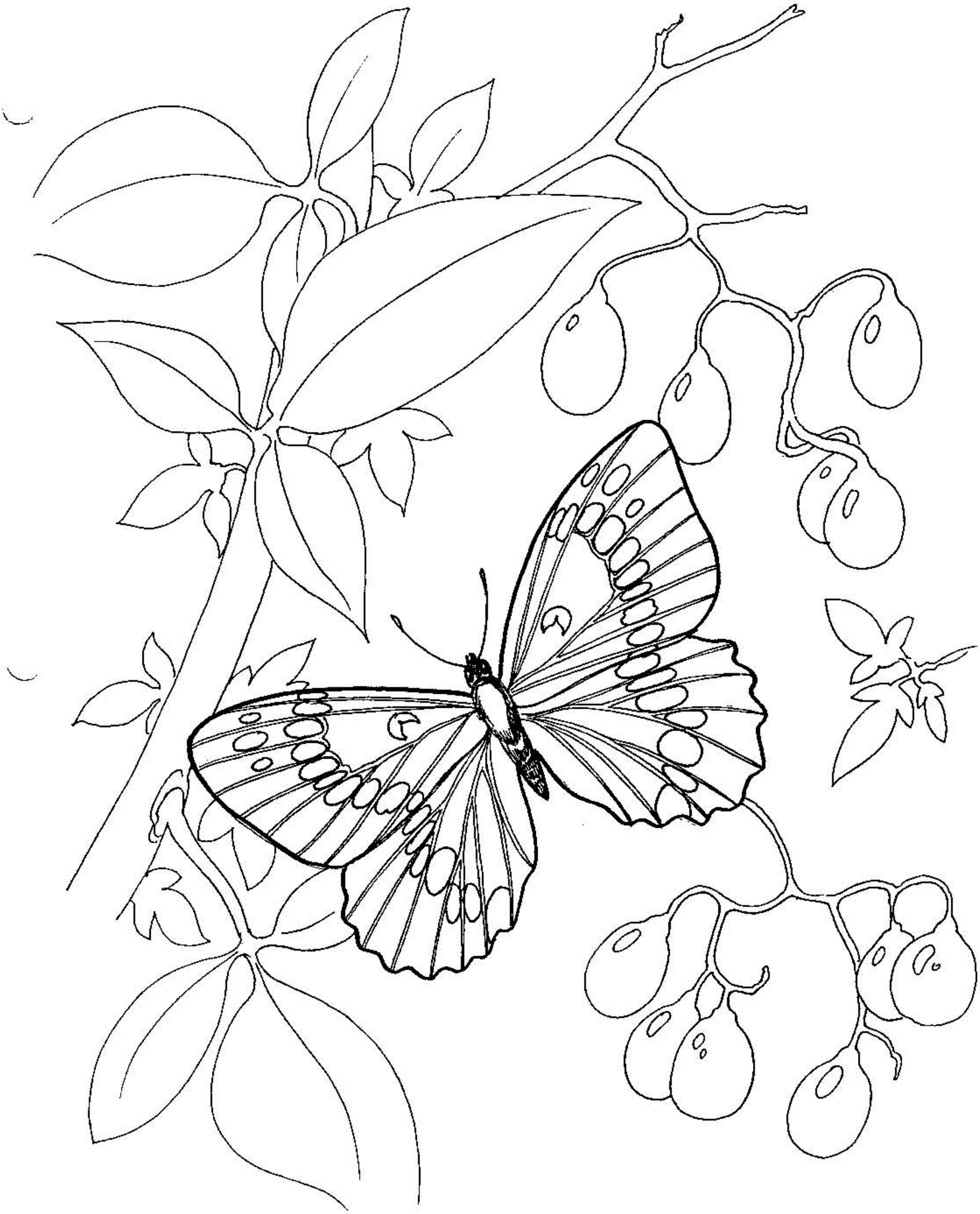
Mourning Cloak *(Nymphalis antiopa).* When its dark wings are folded, a Mourning Cloak resting on dark bark is perfectly camouflaged. When its wings are open, however, blue-and-yellow trim on a dark maroon-brown background highlights a distinctively beautiful and widely distributed butterfly. Found everywhere in North America except where it is very dry or cold. Look for them especially near trees in the willow, poplar and elm families.



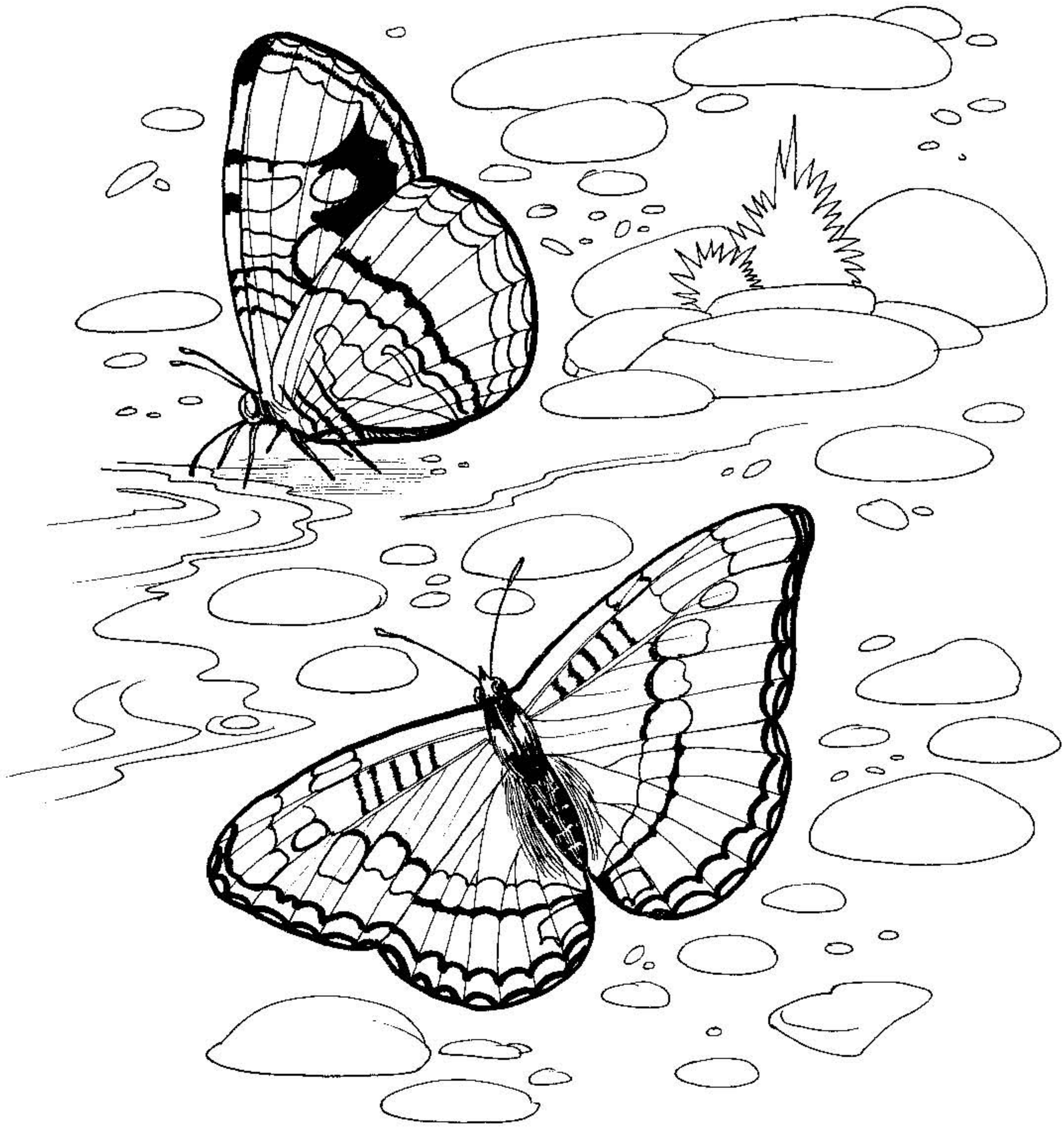
Milbert's Tortoiseshell *(Aglais milberti).* A close relative of the Mourning Cloak, Milbert's Tortoiseshell prefers the cool temperatures of northern latitudes (it is absent from Alaska, however); it may also be found further south in alpine meadows. Its dark coloration is typical of butterflies of cooler climates, dark tones absorbing heat from the sun more readily than lighter tones. The dark areas of its two-toned wings thus help to regulate the Milbert's Tortoiseshell's body temperature.



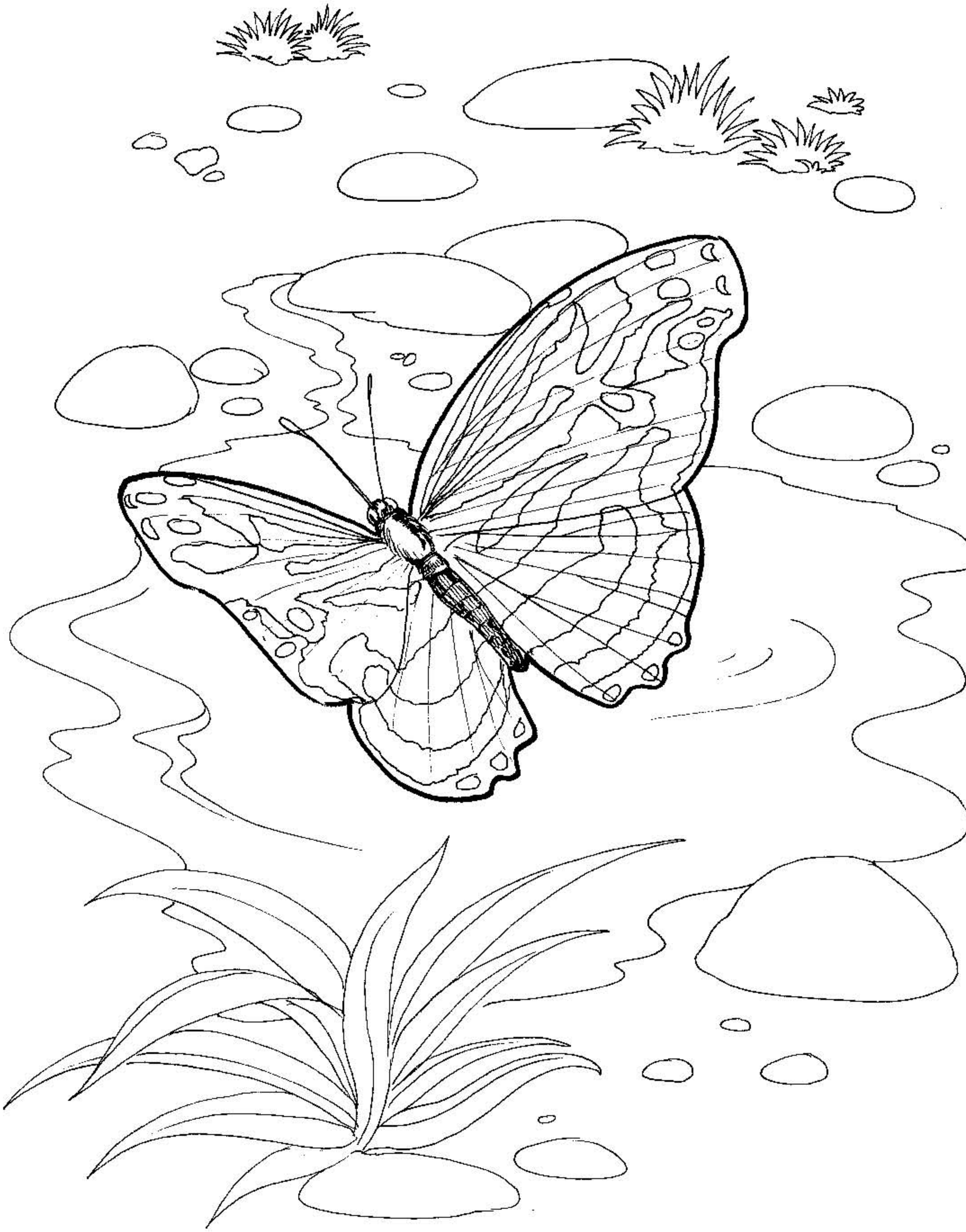
Painted Lady *(Vanessa cardui)*. Bearing distinctive wings of black, salmon-orange and white with blue spots, the Painted Lady is found throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Africa, even Iceland, where there are few kinds of butterflies. It is absent from colder regions in winter, but recolonizes them by late spring, making it one of the most widespread of all butterflies. Its favorite plant is thistle.



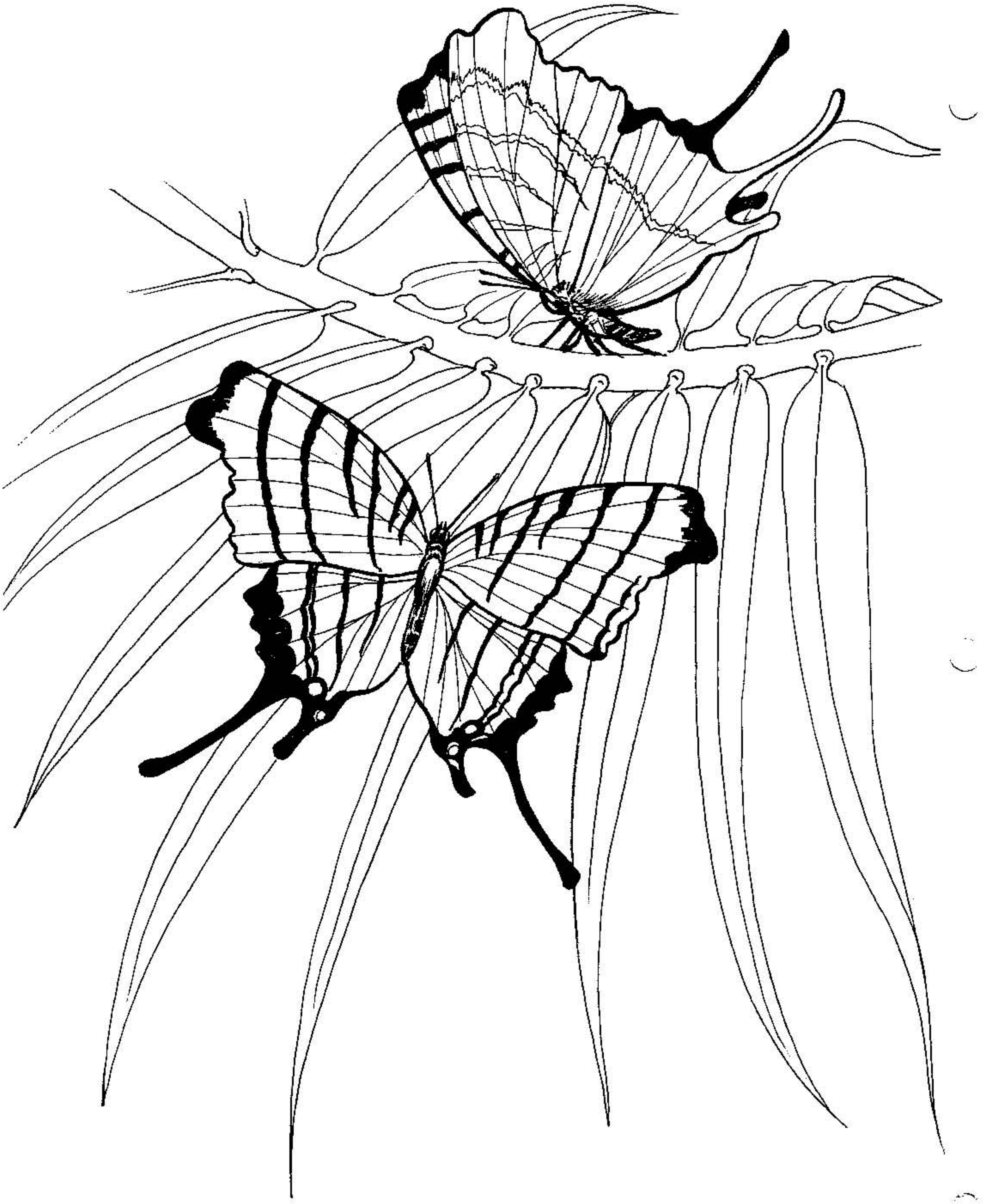
Lorquin's Admiral *(Basilarchia lorquini).* This strictly Western species shows wavy spotted cream-colored bands across its brownish black fore and hind wings, which are also tipped with buff or orange. Lorquin's Admiral is among the most aggressive of butterflies, readily harassing birds immensely larger than itself. It was named for the nineteenth-century French collector Pierre Lorquin.



California Sister *(Adelpha bredowii).* Another Western butterfly, the California Sister got its name from its wings' resemblance to a nun's habit. The resemblance ends, however, with its bright red-orange wingtips and the orange, brown and lavender of its underwings. Especially common in California, the California Sister is found particularly in forests of live oak, the main host plant of the caterpillars. The adults are often found drinking spilled wine at wineries.



Blue Wing *(Myscelia ethusa).* The brilliant sapphire-blue of its upperwings makes this poorly known butterfly distinctive in North America. It is only marginally North American, however, being essentially a tropical species that just barely makes it up into southern Texas. Its underwings are a drab brown and gray, good camouflage colors that protect it from predators when it rests with closed wings.

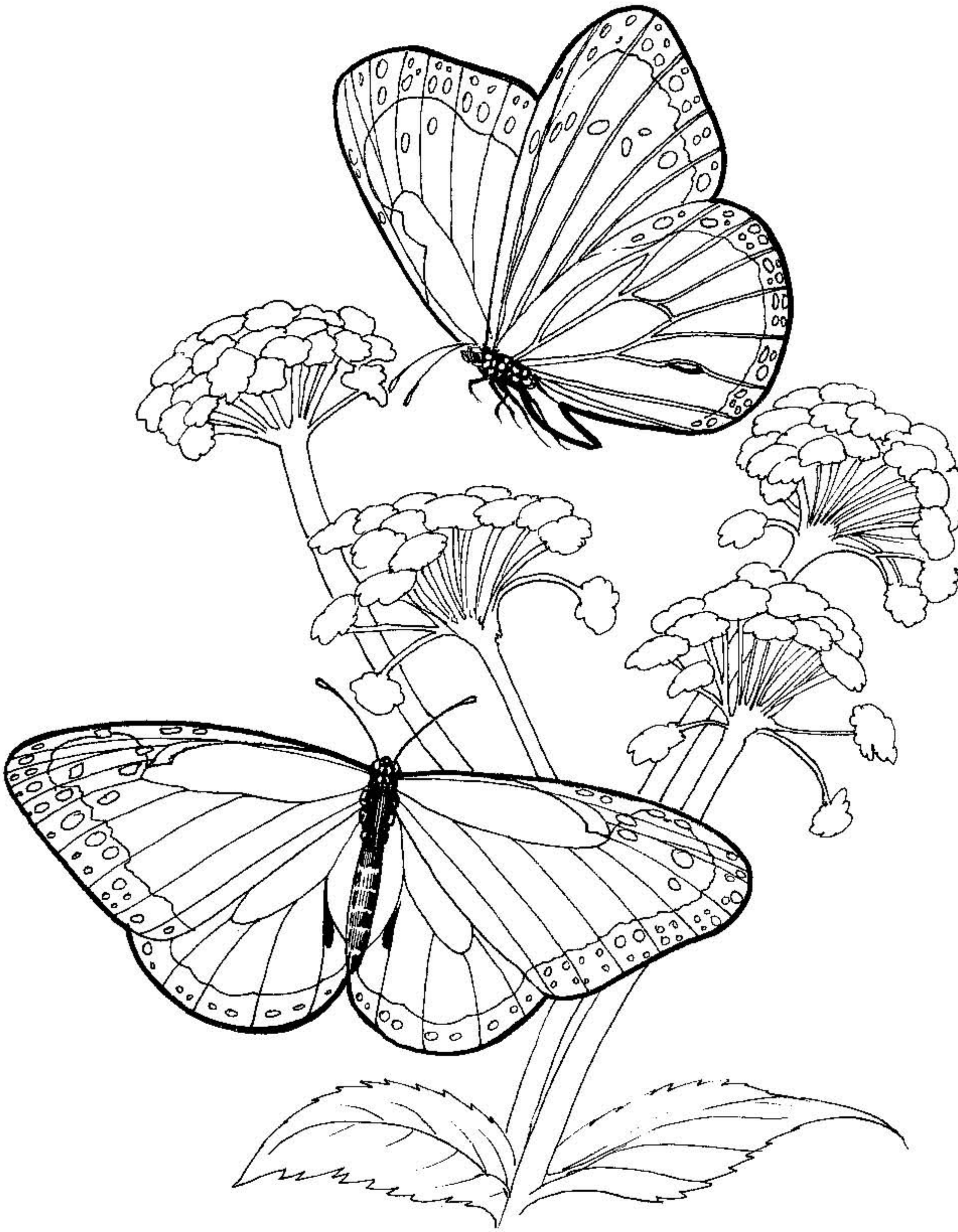


Ruddy Daggerwing *(Marpesia petreus).* The ragged edges and daggerlike "tails" of this brilliantly colored orange-and-black butterfly are said to frighten off predators. This is another tropical species the northern limit of whose range is in Florida and Texas. In Florida the caterpillars feed on leaves of fig and cashew trees. Adults will feed on rotting figs, as well as other fruits and giant milkweed.

Pavon *(Doxocopa pavon).* The Pavon is yet another tropical member of the huge Brush-footed Butterfly family that just barely enters the United States, in southeast Texas, and even there only rarely. The bright purplish shine of the males' upperwings is apparent only in bright sunlight.

Canada Arctic *(Oeneis macounii).* This yellowish-brown and brown butterfly lives up to its name, thriving even in the southern part of Canada's Northwest Territories and making it into the United States only in northern Minnesota and a small part of Michigan. The caterpillars take two years to mature, and adults are seen only in alternate years. For some reason they appear only in odd years west of Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba, and only in even years east of that point! This is the only representative in this book of the very large family of Satyrs (about 3,000 species worldwide).

Monarch *(Danaus plexippus).* Among the best-known butterflies in North America, Monarchs can be seen around milkweeds when breeding and in many different habitats across the continent at other times. They are the long-distance champions among migrating butterflies, some covering thousands of miles. Far Western Monarchs overwinter in southern California, but Eastern and Mid-western Monarchs fly all the way to the middle of Mexico each fall. Unlike migrating birds, however, no individual makes a complete round-trip; on the northward journey in the spring they breed and are replaced by their offspring for the remainder of the trip. Finally, on their northern-most breeding grounds, a new brood is produced, which in fall gathers in huge swarms for the trip south.



Queen *(Danaus gilippus).* Along with the Monarch one of the very few North American members of the Milkweed Butterfly family (about 300 species worldwide), the Queen is another large, beautiful butterfly, with rich orange-brown, dark-veined coloration. It is, however, far less widely distributed than the Monarch, ranging through the South up as far as Nevada, Kansas and Georgia. The caterpillars, like those of all Milkweed Butterflies (and a number of other species as well), feed on milkweed, which contains a toxin that is retained in the adults and makes these butterflies distasteful to birds.

Arizona Skipper *(Codatractus arizonensis).* With the Skippers we come to a very different group of butterflies, more closely related to the moths than the others in this book (with about 3,000 species worldwide, the Skippers are placed in a "superfamily" of their own). Many are very tiny and drab-colored. The Arizona Skipper is large for a Skipper (up to about 2¼ inches across, while some Skippers are only ½ inch) and shows some tawny-brown and purplish coloring on its otherwise dark brown wings. It is found only in certain arid parts of the Southwestern United States, as well as Mexico. Although it is not rare, its breeding cycle is poorly known.

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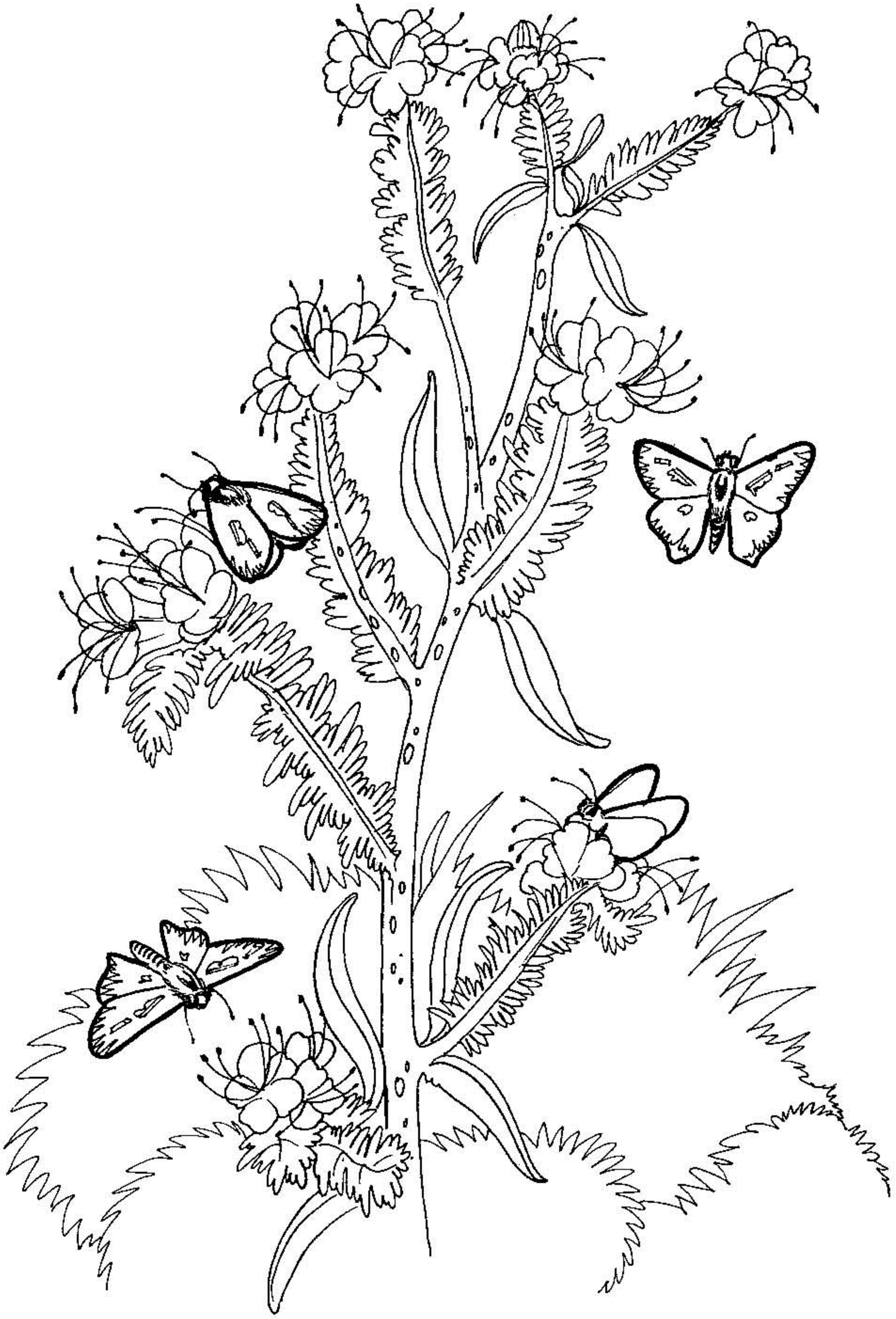
ely green

iridescence on its back, this large, mothlike Skipper is unfortunately destructive to many crops. The caterpillars particularly favor bean plants.

Long-tailed Skipper *(Urbanus proteus).* Wide
the South, the Long-tailed Skipper often migr
north as Connecticut. Distinguished by a lo



Fiery Skipper *(Hylephila phyleus)*. Of a more typical size for a Skipper (about an inch across), the Fiery Skipper is mostly a bright yellow-orange. The caterpillars feed on many plants in the grass family, including sugarcane. Not surprisingly, the Fiery Skipper is most common in the South, including the Southwest, but it is sometimes found as far north as Michigan and Connecticut.

Alphabetical List of Scientific Names

Adelpha bredowii, 38
Aglais milberti, 29
Agraulis vanillae, 21
Anthocharis sara, 7
Atlides halesus, 15
Basilarchia arthemis, 35
Basilarchia astyanax, 36
Basilarchia lorquini, 37
Battus philenor, 4
Calephelis virginiensis, 20
Chalceria rubidus, 13
Codatractus arizonensis, 45
Danaus gilippus, 44
Danaus plexippus, 43
Doxocopa pavon, 41
Dryas iulia, 22
Euphydryas chalcedona, 26
Eurytides marcellus, 6
Feniseca tarquinius, *12*
Heliconius charitonius, *23*
Hylephila phyleus, 47
Hypaurotis crysalus, 14
Icaricia icarioides, 19
Junonia coenia, 33
Lycaeides melissa, 18
Marpesia petreus, 40
Mitoura gryneus, 16
Myscelia ethusa, 39
Nymphalis antiopa, 28
Oeneis macounii, 42
Parnassius phoebus, 3
Phoebis philea, 10
Polygonia interrogationis, 27
Pterourus glaucus, 5
Siproeta stelenes, 34
Speyeria diana, 24
Urbanus proteus, 46
Vaga blackburnii, 17
Vanessa atalanta, 31
Vanessa cardui, 30
Vanessa tameamea, 32
Zerene cesonia, 8
Zerene eurydice, 9

Alphabetical List of Common Names

Admiral
    Lorquin's, 37
    Red, 31
    White, 35
Arctic, Canada, 42
Blue
    Common, 19
    Orange-bordered, 18
Bluet, Blackburn's, 17
Blue Wing, 39
Buckeye, 33
Checkerspot, Chalcedon, 26
Copper, Ruddy, 13
Daggerwing, Ruddy, 40
Diana, 24
Dogface, California, 9
Dogface Butterfly, 8
Fritillary, Gulf, 21
Hairstreak
    Colorado, 14
    Great Purple, 15
    Olive, 16
Harvester, 12
Julia, 22
Kamehameha, 32
Longwing, Zebra, 23
Malachite, 34
Metalmark, Little, 20
Monarch, 43
Mourning Cloak, 28
Orangetip, Sara, 7
Painted Lady, 30
Parnassian, Phoebus, 3
Pavon, 41
Purple, Red-spotted, 36
Queen, 44
Question Mark, 27
Sister, California, 38
Skipper
    Arizona, 45
    Fiery, 47
    Long-tailed, 46
Sulphur, Orange-barred Giant, 10
Swallowtail
    Pipevine, 4
    Tiger, 5
    Zebra, 6
Tortoiseshell, Milbert's, 29